

SALA, GEORGE A.

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Abraham Lincoln's Contemporaries

George Sala

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MEN OF THE HOUR.



GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA,

Celebrated Newspaper Man and Popular Lecturer.

George Augustus Henry Sala, of the London *Daily Telegraph*, is one of the few newspaper men writing in English who gets credit for all the good work he does. His contributions to the public press are generally signed "G. A. S.," as are now the "Echoes of the Week," in *The Illustrated London News*, for example; and, in case his contributions are unsigned, his literary methods are so well-known that they never fail to be recognized by an appreciative public.

As Mr. Sala is about to resume lecturing in the United States, it is safe to say that his usual good fortune follows him with regard to this means of popularity. Many readers will remember with pleasure his tour of 1879.

The principal of Mr. Sala's books are "America in the Midst of the War," "A Journey Duo North," "Twice Round the Clock," "Seven Sons of Mammon," "Strange Adventures of Captain Dangerous," "From Waterloo to the Peninsula," "Rome and Venice," and others. It is no disparagement to him to say that their style indicates the dash and hurry of the newspaper correspondent. They are, all of them, indubitably clever, often brilliant, showing wonderful mastery of language and picturesqueness of expression.

The biography of Sala is soon related. He is a native of the city of London; born 1828, the son of an Italian father and an English woman of West Indian extraction. His mother was a favorite public singer. The boy was clever and bright, and educated for an artist. An unconquerable bias towards literature led to the inevitable result. His earliest contributions seems to have been to *Household Words*, the charming weekly periodical edited by Charles Dickens. When *All the Year Around* succeeded that publication Mr. Sala was one of the most valued contributors. He founded and was the first editor of *Temple Bar*, still a prosperous shilling monthly magazine. His contributions appear in other publications than those named.

Mr. Sala visited America the first time, in 1863, as a correspondent for the *Daily Telegraph*, a paper with which he continues to be in regular connection. His book on this country appeared the next year. Other services to the *Telegraph* include trips to Algeria in 1864 and 1875; letters from the Paris exposition, 1867; from the seat of war between France and Germany in the principal campaigns of 1870-71, from Spain, Morocco and Venice, in 1875; and from Russia in 1876.

Few pens have covered a larger area of "live" subjects than that of Mr. Sala, who writes with the ease and grace of one to the manner born.

The figure of this veteran scribe was formed for strength and endurance. An active life, many changes and the habits of a good liver leave Mr. Sala still a strong man.



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